This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently amended) A computer implemented method of tracking operations in an automated business process, the method comprising:

the computer defining a plurality of operations at a plurality of nodes in a business process;

the computer executing a workflow comprising the operations;

the computer applying a plurality of business rules to the workflow at the nodes to affect the operations, wherein the plurality of business rules are applied using a rules engine integrated with a workflow process engine, and wherein the rules engine and the workflow process engine are implemented in a same processor of the computer;

the computer changing the business rules and applying the changed business rules during execution of the workflow without stopping execution of the workflow; ~~and~~

the computer providing a correlation between the business rules applied to the nodes and the corresponding affected operations to track operations within the workflow, the computer providing the correlation by implementing an integrated interface control layer that provides an integrated user interface to the business rules engine and the workflow process engine for enabling performance monitoring of the operations work flow; and

the computer constructing a query to evaluate at least one of the business rules, the query generated within a rules runtime after relevant data has been determined and brought into a memory of the rules engine, wherein the query is constructed and executed during execution of the workflow and is optimized to retrieve only data needed for query execution.

2.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the operations are at least one of transactions internal to a business enterprise and transactions external to a business enterprise.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the operations comprise passing XML formatted messages according to the workflow.

4.   (Canceled)

5.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the computer changing the
business rules and applying the changed business rules during execution of the workflow
comprises the computer implementing a changed business rule while avoiding at least one of
suspending, recompiling and redeploying the workflow.

6.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein optionally changing the
business rules and applying the changed business rules during execution of the workflow
comprises the computer utilizing at least one declarative if/then statement.

7.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein providing a correlation
between the business rules applied to the nodes and corresponding affected operations
comprises the computer providing a correspondence between a specific business rule
executed at a node and a resultant state of an operation within the workflow of the automated
business process.

8-15.   (Canceled)

16.   (Currently amended) A machine-readable medium, comprising instructions that
execute a method of tracking of operations in an automated business process, the method
comprising:
        defining a plurality of operations at a plurality of nodes in a business process;
        executing a workflow comprising the operations;
        applying a plurality of business rules to the workflow at the nodes to affect the
operations, wherein the plurality of business rules are applied using a rules engine integrated
with a workflow process engine, and wherein the rules engine and the workflow process
engine are implemented in a same processor;
        changing the business rules and applying the changed business rules during execution
of the workflow without stopping execution of the workflow; and

providing a correlation between the business rules applied to the nodes and the

corresponding affected operations to provide tracking of operations within the workflow, the

correlation being provided by implementing an integrated interface control layer that

provides an integrated user interface to the business rules engine and the workflow process

engine for enabling performance monitoring of the operations workflow; and

the computer constructing a query to evaluate at least one of the business rules, the

query generated within a rules runtime after relevant data has been determined and brought

into a memory of the rules engine, wherein the query is constructed and executed during

execution of the workflow and is optimized to retrieve only data needed for query execution.

17.   (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the operations

comprise passing XML formatted messages according to the workflow.

18.   (Canceled)

19.   (Previously presented) The machine readable medium of claim 16, wherein changing

the plurality of business rules and applying the changed business rules during execution of

the workflow comprises implementing a changed business rule while avoiding at least one of

suspending, recompiling and redeploying the workflow.

20.   (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 16, wherein providing a

correlation between the business rules applied to the nodes and corresponding affected

operations comprises providing a correspondence between a specific business rule executed

at a node and a resultant state of an operation within the workflow of the automated business

process.

21-25. (Canceled).